

Injection Drug Users in Miami-Dade: NHBS-IDU2 Cycle Preliminary Results

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National HIV Behavioral Surveillance (NHBS) Background

- In 2000, CDC and its partners developed an HIV Prevention Strategic Plan with four national goals to reduce new HIV infections
 - Goal 4: By 2005, strengthen the capacity nationwide to monitor the epidemic, develop and implement effective HIV prevention interventions, and evaluate prevention programs



- National HIV Behavioral Surveillance System developed

NHBS Background (cont.)

- First funded by CDC in 2002
- In metropolitan areas with high AIDS prevalence
- Eligible: states & directly funded cities

Current NHBS Sites



NHBS Objectives

"Effective HIV prevention programs rely primarily on changing behavior; therefore, behavioral data are needed to inform these programs." [1]

- NHBS provides data on trends in
 - Risk behaviors
 - HIV testing behaviors
 - Use and impact of prevention services
 - HIV prevalence and incidence

[1] Lansky A, Abdul-Quader AS, Cribbin M, et al. Developing an HIV behavioral surveillance system for injecting drug users: the National HIV Behavioral Surveillance System. *Public Health Reports* 2007; 122(suppl 1):48-55.

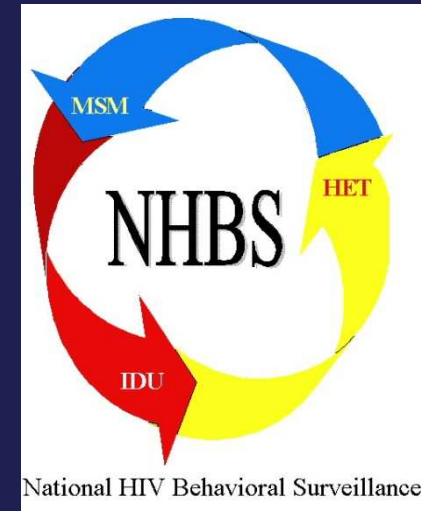
Population

- Persons at high risk for HIV infection
 - Men who have sex with men (MSM)
 - Injection drug users (IDU)
 - Heterosexuals at increased risk of HIV infection (HET)
- Metropolitan Statistical Area residents
 - Miami-Dade County

Sample size: 500 from each cycle

Overall Strategy

- Conducted in 12-month cycles
 - One group per cycle (MSM, IDU, HET)
 - Different sampling methods per cycle/group
 - Formative research done for each cycle
 - Same populations and MSA over time
- Core Questionnaire
- Consistent eligibility criteria
 - 18 years of age or older
 - Resident of MSA



Data Collection

- MSM study cycle (NHBS-MSM)
 - Venue-day-time-space sampling (VDTS)
 - Participants in randomly selected venues are systematically recruited and interviewed
- IDU study cycle (NHBS-IDU)
 - Respondent-driven sampling (RDS)
 - Participants recruit each other from within their networks
- HET study cycle (NHBS-HET)
 - Venue-based sampling (HET1)
 - Respondent-driven sampling (HET2 ->)

Data Collection

- Questionnaire
 - Core Questionnaire
 - Behavioral risks for HIV, HIV testing, exposure to/use of prevention services
 - Local Questionnaire
 - Any other local topics
 - Awareness/use of specific prevention programs

Assessing Characteristics of Population X In ON-going surveillance



Interviewing Van



NHBS-IDU2 Eligibility Criteria

- 18 years of age and above
- Lives in Miami-Dade County
- Male or female (not transgender)
- Reports injection drug use in previous 12 months
- Able to complete interview in English or Spanish
- Not a previous NHBS-IDU participant within same cycle

NHBS-IDU2 Sample

- Started: July 2009
- Ended: Nov 2009
- Eligible participants interviewed: 608
- Eligible participants tested for HIV: 608

*Results are preliminary

NHBS-IDU2

Demographic Characteristics

N=544*

- Mean age: 46 years
- 78% male, 22% female
- Hispanic 42%
- Black 36%
- White 20%
- Other 2%

* Excludes self-reported HIV positive

Characteristics of IDU2 Sample

- 82% identify as heterosexual, 17% as bisexual
- 3/4 (77%) without health insurance at time of interview
- 2 in 5 (42%) have annual income under \$5,000
- Nearly 2/3 (64%) have at least a high school education
- 75% depressed (according to CES-D 10)
- Over half (59%) incarcerated in past 12 months
- 42% self-reported being hepatitis C positive
- Nearly half (49%) homeless in past 12 months

HIV Seroprevalence – IDU2

- 1 in 7 (14%) participants tested HIV positive
 - 11% of males
 - 21% of females
- 1 in 4 (27%) participants who tested HIV positive did not know they were HIV positive
 - 26% of males
 - 27% of females

HIV Seroprevalence - IDU2 (cont.)

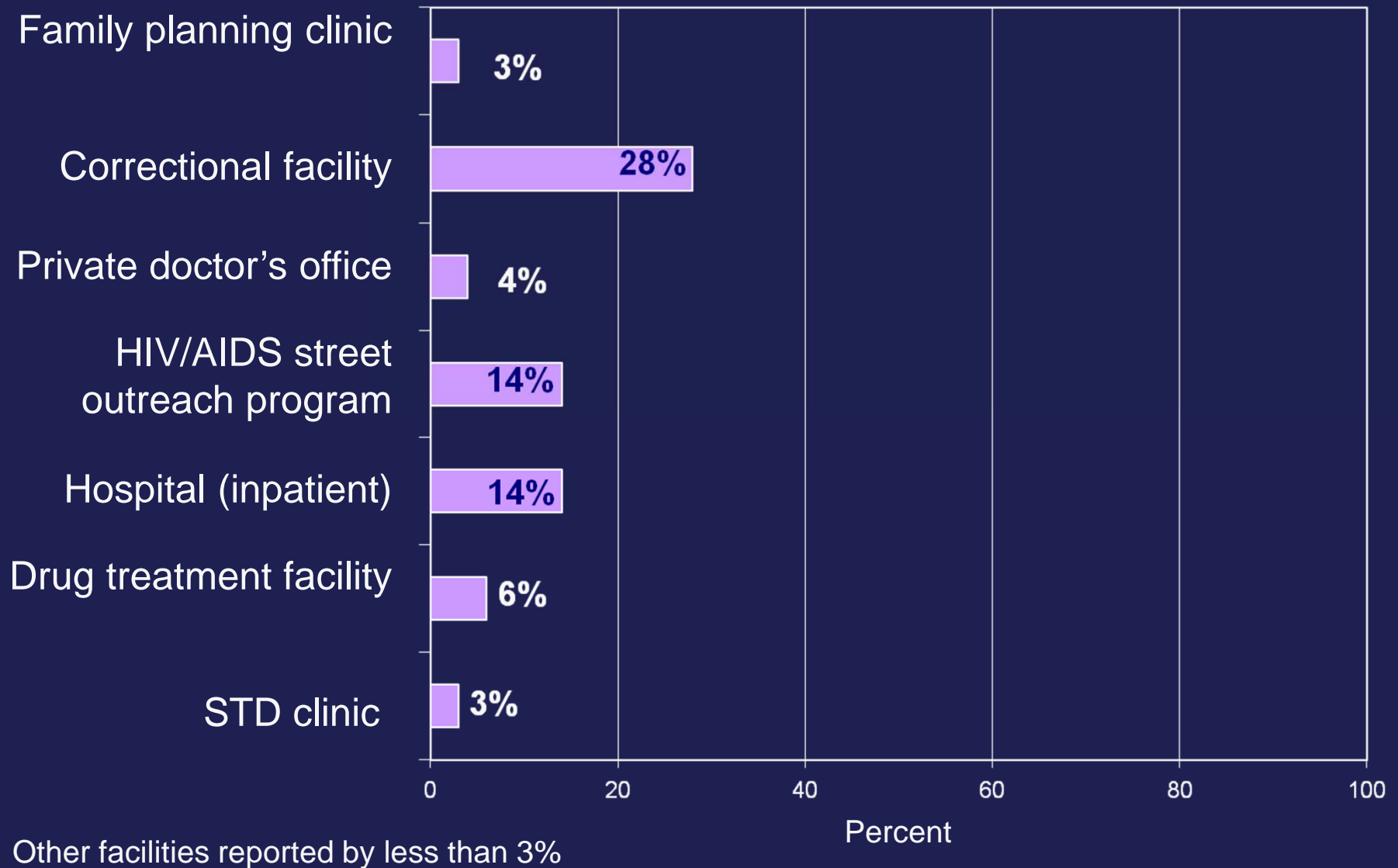
- Variables associated with an HIV positive test result:
 - Black race/ethnicity
 - Has health insurance (including Medicaid or Medicare)

HIV Testing - IDU2

- 9/10 (90%) have tested for HIV in their lifetime
- 52%* tested for HIV in the past 12 months

* Analysis excludes persons diagnosed with HIV over 12 months ago

Facility Administering Most Recent HIV Test in Past 12 Months – IDU2 (N=399)



Healthcare Experiences – IDU2

- Half (55%) of the sample visited a healthcare provider in the past 12 months
 - Of those who saw a healthcare provider*, half (51%) were offered an HIV test
- Of the participants who self-reported being HIV positive, half (54%) reported currently taking HIV medication

* Analysis excludes persons diagnosed with HIV over 12 months ago

Sexual Risk Behaviors in Past 12 Months – IDU2 - Males

- Over 2/3 (69%) reported unprotected vaginal sex with a female partner*
- Over 1/3 (36%) reported unprotected anal sex with a female partner*
- 11% reported unprotected anal sex with a male partner*
- 9% reported unprotected vaginal or anal sex with both a male and female partner*

* Includes main, casual and exchange partners.

Sexual Risk Behaviors in Past 12 Months – IDU2 - Females

- Over 3/4 (79%) reported unprotected vaginal sex with a male partner*
- Over 1/4 (26%) reported unprotected anal sex with a male partner*

* Includes main, casual and exchange partners.

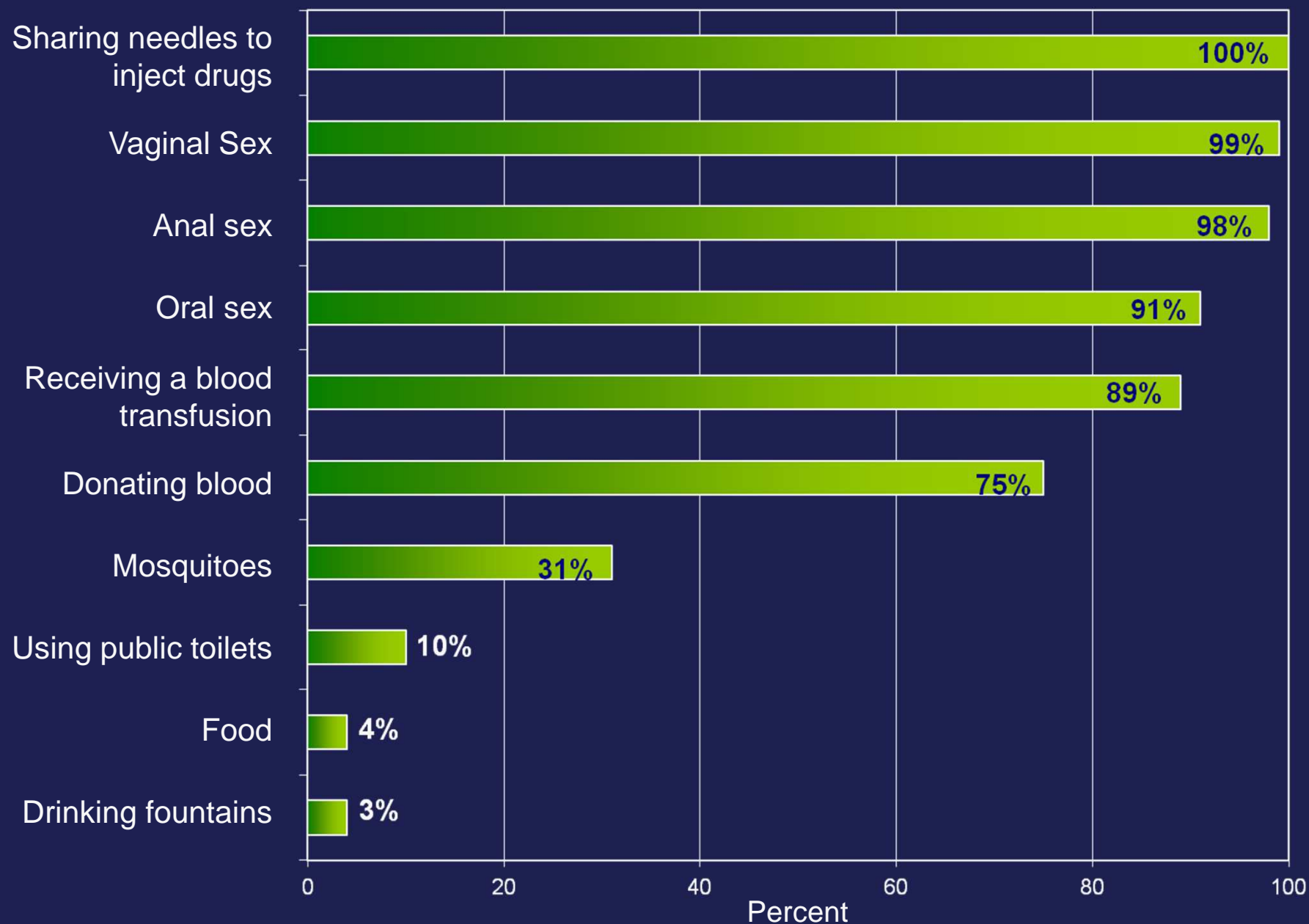
Injection Equipment Sharing – IDU2

- 2/3 (67%) reported sharing syringes or injection equipment in the past 12 months
 - Higher among younger (18-29 y/o) injectors
- 46% reported sharing syringes in the past 12 months
- 65% reported sharing other injection equipment in the past 12 months

Frequency of Drug Use – IDU2 Cocaine or Crack Injectors

- Of the cocaine injectors (N=270), nearly 1/2 (49%) reported injecting cocaine more than once a week
- Of the crack injectors (N=166), 60% reported injecting crack more than once a week

Beliefs on How HIV Can Be Spread – IDU2 (N=606)



Receipt of Prevention Services in Past 12 Months – IDU2

- 1/3 (34%) received free condoms
 - Over half (55%) of these say they used the free condoms
- Only 3% report participating in an individual-level intervention*
- Only 2% report participating in a group-level intervention**

*a one-on-one conversation with an outreach worker, counselor, or prevention program worker about preventing HIV (excluding HIV pre- and post-test counseling sessions)

**an organized session involving a small group of people to discuss ways to prevent HIV

History of Substance Abuse Treatment – IDU2

- Nearly 1/3 (30%) report never participating in substance abuse treatment in lifetime
- Nearly half (48%) report participating in substance abuse treatment in lifetime
- 1/5 (21%) report participating in substance abuse treatment in past 12 months

Areas of Concern for Injection Drug Users in Miami-Dade County based on NHBS-IDU2

- High HIV seroprevalence: 14%
- Large portion with undiagnosed HIV infection: 27%
- Significant rates of unprotected sex with main, casual, and exchange partners
- HIV transmission myths common
- Low receipt of HIV prevention interventions

Areas of Concern for Injection Drug Users in Miami-Dade County based on NHBS-IDU2

- Sharing of syringes and other injection equipment
- Substance abuse, particularly cocaine and crack
- Low use of drug treatment
- High level of depression
- High level of homelessness
- Majority without health insurance
- High level of incarceration

Recommendations

- Increase targeted HIV testing & prevention activities among injection drug users
- Increase HIV prevention intervention delivery to both HIV negative and HIV positive persons living in areas with high rates of poverty and HIV
- Enhance partnerships to address intersecting HIV and substance abuse epidemics
 - Focus attention on crack and cocaine problem
- Ensure strong linkage systems to psychosocial and healthcare services

Limitations

- Data are preliminary
- Data are predominantly self-reported and subject to recall bias
- Data are cross sectional and time order cannot be established
- Findings can only be generalized to the population meeting eligibility criteria who were recruited by RDS methods

NHBS Website

- Visit www.FloridaAIDS.org
 - Scroll down to Prevention link
 - Then follow NHBS link
- NHBS site has links to publications, presentations, and fact sheets
 - Local and national findings
 - Categorized by population (MSM, IDU, HET)

Contact Information

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